

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 047404  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

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APPROVED BY EUR:GSVEST  
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S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: NATO, MNUC

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS IN NAC FEBRUARY 24: GERMAN  
VIEWS ON ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEAD (ERW) DISCUSSION

REF: BONN 3113

1. FRG EMBASSY MINISTER HANSEN CAME IN FEBRUARY 22 TO  
POSE SEVERAL QUESTIONS, AND RELAY SOME OBSERVATIONS, FROM  
KLAUS BLECH REGARDING NAC DISCUSSION OF ERW FEBRUARY 24.  
QUESTIONS IMPLIED THAT FRG MAY HAVE PREFERRED TO DEAL  
WITH ERW ISSUE IN A SINGLE NAC, PROCEEDED BY THOROUGH  
BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS. HE MADE CLEAR FRG WILL ONLY  
BE ABLE TO COMMENT ON OUR PROPOSED ERW APPROACH IF  
OTHER MAJOR ALLIES COME OUT IN FAVOR FIRST ON FEBRUARY 24;

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AND IN ANY CASE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE A POSITION ON  
A SPECIFIC ARMS CONTROL LINKAGE, SINCE THERE ARE STILL  
DIVISIONS WITHIN FRG OVER THE SS-20 VERSUS MBFR.  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST AND PM DEPUTY DIRECTOR GOMPert  
REAFFIRMED THAT WE WERE NOT LOOKING FOR DECISIONS  
FEBRUARY 24, UNDERSTOOD FRG POSITION, AND WOULD REMAIN  
IN CLOSE TOUCH.

2. SPECIFIC QUESTIONS RELAYED BY HANSEN CONCERNED  
EXTENT TO WHICH WE HAD TALKED ABOUT ERW SCENARIO TO

OTHER ALLIES, AND REACTIONS WE HAD RECEIVED; WHAT  
COURSE WE PROPOSED FEBRUARY 24 AND THERE-  
AFTER; HOW WE PROPOSED TO PUT ERW DECISIONS ON PUBLIC  
RECORD IN WASHINGTON AND BRUSSELS; WHETHER WE PLANNED  
TO MEET PRIVATELY WITH LUNS BEFORE FEBRUARY 24 NAC; HOW  
WE PLANNED TO PREVENT LEAKS RESULTING FROM EXTENDED  
NATO CONSULTATIONS; AND WHETHER WE PLAN TO MAKE THE  
ARMS CONTROL OFFER TO THE SOVIETS PRIVATELY AS WELL  
AS PUBLICLY.

3. WE OUTLINED EXTENT TO WHICH OTHER ALLIES HAD BEEN  
INFORMED OF OUR PROPOSED APPROACH, AND SKETCHED OUT  
UK AND FRENCH REACTIONS. VEST NOTED NAC HAD GOOD  
RECORD OF HOLDING SALT CONSULTATIONS CLOSELY, AND IT  
WOULD BE IN NO ONE'S INTEREST TO LEAK DETAILS OF ERW  
PROBLEM. ON TACTICS FOR HANDLING OUR THREE-PART SCENARIO  
PUBLICLY, WE SAID WE WOULD NOT MAKE SPECIFIC TACTICAL  
PROPOSALS, AS WE WANT FEBRUARY 24 MEETING TO FOCUS ON  
LARGER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. WE HOPE AN ALLIANCE CONSENSUS  
WILL EMERGE IN SUPPORT OF ALL THREE PARTS OF THE PACKAGE.  
TO MAKE OUR PROPOSAL EFFECTIVE  
IT WILL PROBABLY BE NECESSARY FOR A STATEMENT OF ALLIANCE  
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CONSENSUS TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE ENTIRE APPROACH --  
PRODUCTION, ARMS CONTROL LINKAGE, AND EVENTUAL DEPLOY-  
MENT FAILING ARMS CONTROL. WE DO NOT HAVE PREDETERMINED  
MODALITIES FOR ACCOMPLISHING THIS, BUT WILL BE PREPARED  
TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE. (HANSEN INTERJECTED THAT "SOME IN  
THE FRG" MIGHT FAVOR A COMPREHENSIVE US STATEMENT TO  
COVER ALL PARTS OF THE PACKAGE, OBVIATING THE NEED FOR  
AN ALLIANCE STATEMENT, BUT SAID HE UNDERSTOOD OUR  
POINT ON THE NEED FOR STATEMENTS IN BOTH BRUSSELS AND  
WASHINGTON COVERING ALL ELEMENTS OF THE PACKAGE.)

4. HANSEN STRESSED THAT FRG WAS BOUND BY FEDERAL  
SECURITY COUNCIL DECISION LAST MONTH NOT TO GET OUT IN  
FRONT ON ER ISSUE, GIVING APPEARANCE OF BILATERAL FRG-  
US ARRANGEMENT. IF NO OTHER ALLY SPEAKS IN FAVOR OF  
US PROPOSAL, HE IMPLIED, FRG WOULD PROBABLY MAKE NO  
SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT FEBRUARY 24.

5. WE TOLD HANSEN WE WOULD PASS THESE POINTS ON TO US  
PARTICIPANTS IN THE SALT NAC.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, WARHEADS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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